

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN INDIAN HANDICRAFTS EXHIBIT OPENING IN KRAKOW

FOR: IBS PASS POLISH SERVICE, IEE

1. THE HISTORICAL CITY OF KRAKOW WAS THE SITE OF THE SECOND POLISH SHOWING OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN HANDICRAFTS EXHIBIT (SZTUKA AMERYKANSKICH INDIAN), AMERICAN AMBASSADOR RICHARD T. DAVIES WAS PRESENT AT THE ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM IN KRAKOW TO OFFICIALLY OPEN THE EXHIBIT ON MAY 8, 1974.

2. AMONG THE 100 GUESTS INVITED TO THE OPENING BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM WERE THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY OF KRAKOW, THE VICE-VOJEWODA OF THE KRAKOW VOIVODSHIP, REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER KRAKOW MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES, AS WELL AS PROFESSORS FROM THE SEVERAL UNIVERSITIES IN THE AREA.

3. AFTER OPENING REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM, AMBASSADOR DAVIES PRESENTED A SHORT SPEECH:  
BEGIN TEXT:.

"I AM VERY HAPPY TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF AGAIN VISITING ONE OF THE LOVELIEST CITIES IN ALL OF POLAND.

I WISH TO THANK MR. WALOGORA, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM, MR. PEKALA, THE PRESIDENT OF

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THE CITY OF KRAKOW, AND THE OFFICIALS OF KRAKOW

VOIVODSHIP FOR THEIR COOPERATION IN MAKING THIS EXHIBIT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

THIS EXHIBIT WILL GIVE YOU A REALISTIC GLIMPSE INTO THE WORLD OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN. THE EDWARD S. CURTIS PRINTS SHOW SOMETIMES IDYLIC, SOMETIMES HARSH SCENES FROM THE DAY-TO-DAY LIFE OF THE INDIANS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, WHILE THE JEWELRY, BEADS AND OTHER HANDICRAFTS REPRESENT BOTH A SOURCE OF INCOME FOR THE INDIAN AS WELL AS A STYLE OF DRESS.

IN CAPTURING THE PROUD LOOK ON WHITE BULL'S FACE, EDWARD S. CURTIS CAPTURED THE SPIRIT OF THE INDIAN NATION. IN THESE DAYS OF MASS CULTURE, MASS MEDIA AND THE ECONOMY OF CONSUMPTION, FOLK CULTURES AND THE SPIRIT WHICH ANIMATES THEM ARE THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION. THIS PHENOMENA IS NOT RESTRICTED TO ANY PARTICULAR COUNTRY. TO MY MIND, THAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS EXHIBIT AND OF THE INTEREST YOU ARE SHOWING IN IT. WE MUST DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP PRESERVE THESE CULTURES, NOT AS MUSEUM ARTIFACTS, BUT AS LIVING SOCIAL ORGANISMS. THIS IS NOT EASY TASK, AS THE TRAGIC HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN SHOWS. WITH THE SUPPORT OF THOSE WHO SHOW A STRONG INTEREST IN HELPING THE WORK OF PRESERVATION, THE ROAD NEED NOT BE A TRAIL OF TEARS. IT CAN BECOME A TRAIL WHICH CELEBRATED LIFE. I HOPE THAT THE PEOPLE OF KRAKOW AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE EXHIBIT WILL ENJOY IT." END TEXT.

4. AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONIES A RECEPTION WAS HELD IN THE DISPLAY AREA OF THE EXHIBIT, HOSTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM.

5. THE ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM MADE ITS OWN CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXHIBIT BY DISPLAYING AN OGLALA-SIOUX DRESS AND AN OLD WOODEN TOMAHAWK, WHICH BELONG TO THE MUSEUM. THE 33 EDWARD S. CURTIS PRINTS AND THE BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLES OF AMERICAN INDIAN JEWELRY, BEADWORK AND OTHER HANDICRAFTS ARE HANDSOMELY DISPLAYED IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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SPECIAL EXHIBIT HALLS OF THE MUSEUM.

6. THE AMERICAN INDIAN HANDICRAFTS EXHIBIT WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE KRAKOW ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM, LOCATED ON PALC WOLNIA 1, EVERY DAY FROM 10:00 TO 18:00 EXCEPT FOR TUESDAYS, UNTIL JUNE 5, AND NOT UNTIL JUNE 6, AS PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED.

6. THE OPENING RECEIVED PROMINENT COVERAGE IN THE KRAKOW DAILIES. IN A FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE FEATUREING A PICTURE OF THE AMBASSADOR AT THE MUSEUM OPENING CEREMONIES, THE EVEING ECHO KRAKOWA DELARED "WE WARMLY GREET THE UNUSUAL (NIE CODZIENNA) AND BEAUTIFUL EXHIBIT." DZIENNIK POLSKI AND GAZETA KRAKOWSKA EACH CARRIED THREE-PARAGRAPH ARTICLES COVERING THE OPENING AND GIVING THE HOURS OF THE EXHIBITION. THE PAPERS ALSO MENTIONED AMBASSADOR DAVIES' CALLS ON SEVERAL LOCAL OFFICIALS.  
DAVIES

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